



**Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure – Art Unit 3749**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ALLY *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/741,735

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: **Apparatus and Method for Drying
Solutions Containing
Macromolecules**

Confirmation No.: 5901

Art Unit: 3749

Examiner: Lu, Jiping

Atty. Docket: 0942.4060002/LEA/MJM

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 16, 2003, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent

abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.